

Our Lady's Church Confirmation Requirements

Each requirement below is a step toward being ready to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

The Most Important Requirement: Pray daily and ask your parents and others to pray for you as you prepare to receive this Sacrament!

Practicing Catholic: Students are encouraged to attend Mass every Sunday and Holy Days, receive the Sacrament of Confession often, and to have an active prayer life. Establishing these practices now will carry through to a loving, Catholic life as an adult.

Baptismal Certificate: Please provide a copy of your child's Baptismal Certificate if your child was not baptized at Our Lady's Church. If you do not have the certificate, please contact the parish where your child was baptized and have them fax the certificate to us @ 301-475-6632.

Saint's Name: Students choose a Confirmation name of a saint that they see as a role model or have a special connection with. The chosen person needs to be canonized (Saint) or beatified (Blessed) by the Church.

Research Paper on Confirmation Saint or Blessed: Students prepare a research paper on their chosen saint to explain the history of that saint and why that saint is special to them. Please include source information.

Sponsor Information: Students choose a Confirmation Sponsor. This person will stand with the student during Confirmation (and rehearsal) and will be a life-long mentor in the faith, to the student. Therefore, the sponsor must be

- 1) At least 16 years old
- 2) A practicing Catholic
- 3) Someone other than a parent (siblings are allowed, provided they meet all the other requirements).

For Our Lady's parishioners, please submit a parish sponsor certificate. For parishioners from other parishes, please have the sponsor request a parish sponsor form from his/her pastor.

Letter to the Bishop: Students write a letter to the Bishop containing the following:

- 1) The student's name and address at the top of the letter.
- 2) The salutation Your Eminence. Or "Dear Bishop Campbell".
- 3) 1st paragraph: introduce yourself, including your age, school, favorite activities, etc.
- 4) 2nd paragraph: introduce your sponsor, telling why you chose this person to be your sponsor.
- 5) 3rd paragraph: information about your saint name and why you chose this saint (a few sentences will suffice, do not reprint your research paper).
- 6) 4th paragraph: describe your parish community service activities, what you learned from providing service to your parish, and how you plan to continue to provide service in the future.
- 7) 5th paragraph: why you want to be Confirmed
- 8) 6th paragraph: how you plan to continue to grow in faith now that your formal CCD education is completed.
- 9) 7th paragraph: thank the bishop.
- 10) Sign the letter.

Community Service Hours: Helping others and our church community is a central theme of Christianity and an important practice to carry into adulthood. Students can choose any of the following service opportunities or find a different option outside the church to complete the Community Service Statement. In church: altar society, altar serving, lecturing, helping at a parish event (cemetery clean up, All Saint's Day, 2nd grade retreat), or singing at Mass.

Proper Attire for Confirmation:

Ladies: A dress, skirt, or dress pants, with dress shoes or sandals. Please dress modestly, that is, no bare shoulders, no miniskirts.

Gentlemen: Dress slacks, dress shirt, tie, and dress shoes. A suit or sport jacket is optional.

Note to all students: NO FLIP-FLOPS or TENNIS SHOES.